

The seal of the City of El Segundo is located in the top left corner. It features a circular design with the words "CITY OF EL SEGUNDO" around the perimeter and a central emblem depicting a building and a ship.

CITY OF
EL SEGUNDO

El Segundo Fire Department Designation of USAR 32 to the Torrance Fire Department

City Council Meeting
August 19, 2025

Intro

- Assistant Chief Tim Behen, Torrance FD
- Battalion Chief Evan Siefke, El Segundo FD





8/19/2025

Recommendation

- The El Segundo Fire Department recommends that USAR 32 (Urban Search and Rescue Vehicle) and its grant-funded equipment be designated to the Torrance Fire Department.

Fiscal Impact

- No fiscal impact to the general fund with this vehicle transfer.
- Only \$163,073 designated to replace USAR 32.
- Estimated replacement cost: \$1.8 to \$2 Million.
- USAR 32 due for replacement (20-year service life).
- Transfer allows asset to be deployed to El Segundo as needed without incurring replacement cost.

Background

- USAR 32 purchased in 2004 with General Fund: \$530,000
- El Segundo USAR Team has had 4 USAR responses in El Segundo since 2005
- No USAR 32 responses in the past five years.

Discussion

Staffing shortfalls have impacted El Segundo Fire Department's RTF 2 (Regional Task Force) commitment.

- Daily staffing is down to 14 from 20 in 2005.
- Retirements and lapsed certifications have reduced USAR team members.

Discussion (continued)

- Increased State USAR requirements and certifications are a challenge to managing overtime budget.
- Estimated costs to certify one USAR member is \$74,000.
 - Eleven 40-hour classes.
 - Training courses approximately \$100 per course.
 - Overtime compensation for attending member
 - Overtime compensation for backfilling member

Discussion (continued)

- El Segundo Fire Department will receive mutual aid for large scale USAR events from the Torrance Fire Department (when available) and other local area fire agencies (LA County Fire and LA City Fire).
- Torrance Fire Department will be part of RTF 2 and will respond in USAR 32 as needed.
- El Segundo Fire Department has previously donated apparatus that has reached the end of its service life.

Thank you